

Application No. 09/753,211
Amendment Date: December 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 8, 2004
Attorney Docket: 3520-002268

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 25 and 26 have been amended while the remaining claims remain unchanged. No new subject matter is believed to have been added by this amendment.

On page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner rejects claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11, 13-19, and 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. §101 indicating the claimed invention lacks patentable utility. The Examiner suggests positively reciting the applicants' "computer" somewhere in the body of the claims and as such independent claims 1, 25 and 26 have been amended to include such language. As a result, claims 1, 25 and 26 are now believed to contain utility and, for that reason, are patentably distinct. By way of their dependence upon what are believed to be patentably distinct independent claim 1, dependent claims 2-6, 8, 9, 11, 13-19 and 21-24 are themselves believed to be patentably distinct.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 7 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of the applicants' amendment to claim 1, the applicants believe that claims 7 and 10 are allowable based upon their dependence upon independent claim 1.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-11, 13-19, and 21-26 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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